Our ref: INA-44 Client's Ref: F1455-AT-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of: Hartman, Erwin, et al. : Examiner: Patel, Vishal A.

Serial No.: 10/596,518 : Art Unit: 3676

Filed: August 16, 2006 : Dated: January 23, 2009

Title: SEAL WITH NON-CONTACT :

ADJACENT DEFLECTOR RINGS

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RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this document is being electronically transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents via EFS-Web on January 23, 2009.

LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP

Nicola K Schuller

Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action dated November 13, 2008 in this Application. Attached hereto are Claim Amendments and Remarks each starting on a separate page.